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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 92

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Hector H. Balderas

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE INTERIM COMMITTEE TO
STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE POTENTIAL EFFECTIVENESS
OF A REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS; A SYSTEM FOR
REGISTERING, TRACKING AND MANAGING CONVICTED CHILD ABUSERS; AND
THE NEED FOR RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES TO COOPERATE ON ADDRESSING
THE PROBLEM OF CHILD ABUSE BY CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.

WHEREAS, in October 2002, three-year-old Mario Archuleta
became a victim of child abuse committed by his daytime child
care provider; and

WHEREAS, young Mario suffered severe burns to his hands
due to the child abuse, requiring a prolonged hospital stay
involving pain management and skin grafts; and

WHEREAS, Mario will have permanent physical scarring and
has suffered psychological and emotional trauma; and

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1 WHEREAS, Mario's parents, who desire that no other
2 children suffer child abuse caused by child care providers,
3 request that the legislature consider laws requiring
4 registration of child care providers; and

5 WHEREAS, Mario's parents also seek consideration of a law
6 requiring a system of registering, tracking and managing
7 convicted child abusers, similar to "Megan's Law" for sexual
8 offenders;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE
10 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the appropriate legislative interim
11 committee study and make recommendations on the potential
12 effectiveness of laws requiring background checks and
13 registration of child care providers; and

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the appropriate legislative
15 interim committee study and make recommendations on
16 implementing a system for registering, tracking and managing
17 convicted child abusers; and

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the administrative office of
19 the courts, the children, youth and families department, the
20 corrections department and the department of public safety be
21 encouraged to cooperate within their areas of responsibility to
22 identify ways that they can address the issues involved with
23 child abuse by child care providers; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
25 transmitted to the legislative council service, the

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1 administrative office of the courts, the children, youth and
2 families department, the corrections department and the
3 department of public safety.

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